

length, all stages, from fresh eggs to young birds, being seen in the same log.

GEOPHELIA CUNEATA and G. TRANQUILLA.—Of these two doves the former is the commoner, its frail little nest being often seen in low bushes and shrubs in the spring, and later on again in the early autumn months.

HISTRIOPHAPS HISTRIONICA.—The Flock Pigeon was for many years more numerous than any other bird inhabiting the fertile downs of the Gulf country. Twenty years ago it was no uncommon sight to see these birds flying in to water in an unbroken succession of mobs from fifty to several hundreds each for two hours or more at a time from the plains in all directions. Nothing could be heard near the waterhole but the clatter and whirr of wings as each mob alighted near the water, each bird running down to the edge, dipping its bill once or twice, and then off again to the plains for the night. I have frequently taken this bird's eggs over twenty-five years ago when resident in the district. The Flock Pigeon is essentially a ground bird, never perching.

*(To be continued.)*

#### A NEW VICTORIAN COCCID.

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LECANIUM AUSTRALIS, sp. nov.

Adult female naked, brown in colour, with several blotches of lighter ground colour or nearly yellow scattered irregularly over the dorsum, and occupying about half of the area of that region; ventral surface yellowish, concave, and usually crowded with scores of young larvæ. In shape semi-globular, with several longitudinal rather deep furrows, which give the dorsal region a ridged appearance. Along these furrows are placed some shallow depressions, in which the spiracles are situated. These are rather large, and bivalvular in shape, with immense tracheæ. Mentum monomeric; rostral setæ long and coiled; dermis chitinous, with many scattered triangular gland-spots; marginal spines entire, but very small; abdominal cleft distinctly lecanid, lobes rather large; antennæ and feet entirely wanting. Diameter of insect averaging  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

Larva elliptical, flattish, and may always be found occupying the ventral region of the adult; antennæ six-segmented, the second being the longest, the rest sub-equal, each bearing several stout hairs; feet long and slender, coccæ longer than trochanter, tibia much shorter than femur, claw large; tarsal digitules fine hairs, claw digitules filiform; spiracular depressions shallow, and bearing some fine hairs. Length of insect about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Adult male unknown.